

Dave got his start on Wayne County's oldest AM station reaching just 10,000 listeners. Today, he reaches nearly 6 million people a week on both radio and television.

Mr. Speaker, Dave continues to be an important voice for Pennsylvania's number one industry and uses his platform to advocate for agriculture. His role allows him to highlight the important work of our farmers, ranchers, and producers who supply this Nation and the world with our food and our fiber.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Dave for being the voice of Pennsylvania agriculture.

COMMENDING LEBRON JAMES

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend basketball superstar LeBron James for calling out sports media bias.

Late last year, a photo resurfaced of Dallas Cowboys' owner Jerry Jones blocking the integration of an Arkansas high school in 1957. Mr. James asked why he was not getting any questions about this photo and stated that the media had plenty of questions after former teammate Kyrie Irving promoted an anti-Semitic film on social media.

Jerry Jones owns an \$8 billion sports franchise, the world's most valuable one according to Forbes. The Cowboys rank among the worst NFL teams for minority hiring.

The possible connection between these points is far more important than the hateful beliefs of one basketball player. Yet, the media asks about Irving and stays quiet about Jones.

It is a question the media needs to answer for James and the Black community in America.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day is an opportunity for citizens to recognize the difficult and sometimes impossible jobs police officers have chosen to do.

There is no doubt that morale across law enforcement in our country has decreased due to negative public sentiment over the last few years.

However, our selfless public servants have not let that deter them from doing their jobs.

To have a strong police force, the officers must know that their communities support the work that they are doing.

That is why I am proud to recognize our men and women in uniform.

I encourage everyone in the First Congressional District to go above and beyond today and every day to show their appreciation to our law enforcement. They are the best among us and deserve our unwavering support.

REPARATIONS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it has been 38 years, and I rise with enthusiasm on reintroducing H.R. 40, the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act.

I am pleased to reintroduce this legislation and to acknowledge to my friends and colleagues that it was first introduced in 1989 after the implementation of the American Civil Liberties Act that provided compensation to Japanese Americans.

H.R. 40 does not focus on all of that only. It focuses on the study of slavery and the understanding of what would be the next steps to end the vast disparities in the African-American community even today in 2023. And so this introduction allows for a study, an analysis, and action.

I am pleased with the more than 350 organizations, CEOs, scholars, State and local officials, and Members of Congress who have been supportive in understanding the era of slavery in this country.

The 13th amendment may have ended slavery, but the disparities exist.

Let us pass H.R. 40, the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to re-introduce H.R. 40, the Commission to Study and Develop Reparations Proposals for African Americans Act. This legislation was first introduced by retired Member of Congress John Conyers of Michigan in 1989 and was intended to examine the institution of slavery in the colonies and the United States from 1619 to the present, and further recommend appropriate remedies.

Since the initial introduction of this legislation, its proponents have made substantial progress in elevating the discussion of reparations and reparatory justice at the national level and joining the mainstream international debate on the issues. Though some have tried to deflect the importance of these conversations by focusing on individual monetary compensation, the real issue is whether and how this nation can come to grips with the legacy of slavery that still infects current society. Through legislation, resolutions, news, and litigation, we are moving closer to making more strides in the movement toward reparations.

Today there are more people at the table—more activists, more scholars, more CEOs, more state and local officials, and more Members of Congress. However, despite this progress and the election of the first American President of African descent, the legacy of slavery lingers heavily in this nation. While we have focused on the societal effects of slavery and segregation, its continuing economic implications remain largely ignored by main-

stream analysis. These economic issues are the root cause of many critical issues in the African American community today, such as education, healthcare and criminal justice policy, including policing practices. The call for reparations represents a commitment to entering a constructive dialogue on the role of slavery and racism in shaping present-day conditions in our community and American society.

Over the last several years, we have had a distinguished academic and activist panel from the National African American Reparations Commission dive into some of the most salient points in the discussion of reparations. I am supporting this effort by continuing to hold the annual reparations retrospective at the Annual Legislative Conference of the Congressional Black Caucus.

I believe that H.R. 40 is a crucial piece of legislation because it goes beyond exploring the economic implications of slavery and segregation. It is a holistic bill in the sense that it seeks to establish a commission to also examine the moral and social implications of slavery. In short, the Commission aims to study the impact of slavery and continuing discrimination against African Americans, resulting directly and indirectly from slavery to segregation to the desegregation process and the present day. The commission would also make recommendations concerning any form of apology and compensation to begin the long-delayed process of atonement for slavery.

With the over criminalization and policing of black bodies, a reoccurring issue in African American communities, I believe this conversation is both relevant and crucial to restoring trust in governmental institutions in many communities. As in years past, I welcome open and constructive discourse on H.R. 40 and the creation of this commission in the 118th Congress. Though the times and circumstance may change, the principal problem of slavery continues to weigh heavily on this country. A federal commission can help us reach into this dark past and bring us into a brighter future.

IN SUPPORT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

(Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, the men and women from sea to shining sea that wear a badge have sworn an oath to the Constitution. That oath is not to a sheriff or a marshal or a chief, it is to the people of their community and deeper, the principles that have built our country.

We put on our badges and uniforms, and we say good-bye to our wives not knowing if we will return.

For many, many years on my way to night shift I would tell my wife I loved her, and she would hand me my little lunch. She would say: "Come home safe." I would say: "Don't worry about me, worry about the other guy." That was our little ritual, but the truth was we never knew if I was coming home.

Right now men and women across the country are having similar conversations and wearing a badge. Just know we love you and respect you. This body supports you.